Mr. Verschoor

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The Bookmark

THE NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY

UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

THE BOOKMARK: News about Books and Library Services

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NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY

The Bookmark

LOCAL LIBRARY RESEARCH

by Dorothy C. Barck, Librarian
New York State Historical Association, Fenimore House, Cooperstown

County and town histories of New York State generally neglect the early public libraries in their localities. That is not to be wondered at, since the complete story of each library has not been written, nor the research for such detailed study accomplished. What more appropriate than for librarians throughout the State to cooperate with archivists and local historians and students of history in preserving the records and compiling the annals of those libraries (subscription or proprietary or social or "public") which flourished in the 1790s and early 1800s, and of the numerous school district libraries formed under the State law of 1835.

When upstate New York developed in the post-Revolutionary decades, the settlers, mainly from New England or the older counties of New York State, appreciated the value of book learning, and all had had the opportunity to become acquainted with subscription libraries or library companies. It has been estimated that before the American Revolution, some 38 libraries of that type had been formed in New England, and some 23 in the Middle States; and that some 500 were organized in the years 1790 to 1815. (Oliver Garceau, The Public Library in the Political Process (Columbia University Press, 1949) p. 16; C. Seymour Thompson, Evolution of the American Public Library, 1653-1876 (Washington, D. C., 1952) pp. 54-55.) So much interest was there in New York State "for improvement in useful knowledge . . . by associating for and procuring and erecting social and public (sic) libraries" before the end of the 18th century, that the Legislature passed a law on April 1, 1796, "to incorporate such persons as may officiate for the purpose of procuring and erecting public libraries in this State" (Laws of New York, 19th session, Chapter 43). Included in the specifications about subscribers, dues, powers and duties of trustees, etc., was the provision that the chairman selected at the organizing meeting should certify the name of the library and names of the first trustees before the Chancellor or a judge, and should record the library's incorporation with the proper county clerk. Under that law, in Otsego County alone, nine subscription libraries were begun, and duly recorded, in the years 1805-1810, and 12, in the years 1812-31. In the Otsego County Clerk's office, Cooperstown, the returning officers' reports are recorded in Books A and B of Incorporations; in other counties they are found in the County Clerks' "Miscellaneous Records."

The history of libraries of that kind in the Genesee Country has been well told by Dr. Blake McKelvey in the Rochester Historical Society Publication number XVI

(1937), which also includes accounts of particular libraries in Rochester and Monroe County in a way which other historical and local groups might well emulate.

Some at least of the subscription libraries printed their by-laws, with rules about borrowing books, and the duties of the librarian. In the New York State Historical Association's library, Fenimore House, Cooperstown, there are two of those ephemeral pamphlets: the Bye-laws of the Rochester (Ulster, not Monroe, County) Encyclopaedian Society Library, adopted in 1819 (under that 1896 Law) and printed at nearby Kingston in 1819; and the By-laws of the Butternuts Library at Louisville (now Morris, Otsego County), printed at New Berlin in 1837. The latter includes a list of titles in the library, totaling 426 volumes. Such local library publications, and books identified by bookplates or names written on flyleaves as having once been in such libraries, are interesting items to search for, in historical society collections, in local libraries and in secondhand bookstores.

A very large number of the actual books from one of the most successful and long-lived of the subscription libraries in western New York, the Farmers' Library of Wheatland, Monroe County (the Garbutt Library) are now shelved as a unit in the Rush Rhees Library of the University of Rochester. Such a collection gives the opportunity to learn from the very books themselves the kind of literature available to subscribers and their friends, in a York State village in the mid-decades of the last century.

Printers and booksellers promptly followed the settlers westward across New York State, and some of them had commercial circulating libraries: another fruitful field of local investigation.

Another resource for research and writing is offered by the numerous school district libraries, established all over the State under the law of 1835 and subsequent legislation, which were circulating libraries for adult inhabitants of each district as well as for youngsters (and free, except for local taxes). They too suggest many studies in the interrelation of history, education, literature; and other such monographs as the one entitled "Bookthieves' Reading," which Robert C. Whitford contributed to The American Bookman in the fall of 1944. That monograph was based on a manuscript "Catalogue of Books in District No. 7" of Brookfield, 1850-51, the kind of local record which certainly should be preserved in historical collections over the State. Undoubtedly individuals and local libraries possess some volumes, clearly identified, which have survived from school district libraries. The New York State Historical Association's library has not a few books from School District no. 27, of Norwich and Guilford, Chenango County; and quite a large number from the old library of School District no. 7, Town of Burlington, Otsego County. Most of the latter have bookplates, printed by H. & E. Phinney of Cooperstown, with places for accession number, cost, district number and town name, with the length of time the book might be borrowed, and a warning about fines for keeping it overtime, or defacing it in any way.

No lack of needed work for librarians, in preserving the records of old libraries in their own neighborhoods, and in writing their histories!

Recent Books

A SELECTION

Suggested by Book Information Section
Florence Boochever, Editor — Laura E. McDowell

Recommendations: *of first interest; Y for young people; P for prisons; R for reformatories; H for mental hospitals.

Nonfiction

*Amer, J.B. & Gray, Mrs. A.L. How to make containers and accessories for flower arrangements. Hearthside. $3.50.
This attractive square book, fully illustrated with photographs and drawings, suggests ingenious, imaginative containers that may be made from such natural materials as shells, rocks and wood as well as edible containers and Christmas decorations. 635.9

Antoine, Albert, pseud. Slimming the French way (L'art de maigrir); tr. by Nina Froud. Putnam. $2.95.
Pointing out the causes and dangers of obesity, a former "heavyweight" describes his happy experience with a day-by-day diet and quotes letters from others who have profited by his cure. Charts. 616.39

Y *Barzun, Jacques, & Graff, H.F. The modern researcher. Harcourt. $6.
Geared to many fields of interest, this helpful volume illustrates with examples how to use various sources of information and how to marshal the findings simply and literately so that the written report may be readily understood. Diagrams. Bibliography, index. 808

YP *Battiscombe, Mrs. Georgina. Mrs. Gladstone; the portrait of a mar-
RH riage. Houghton. $5.
Delightful presentation of the great Prime Minister's charming, brilliant wife for nearly 60 years, through whose eyes Gladstone is seen "as a person, not as a personage." Portraits. Glossary, index. B or 92

*Bloom, M.T. Money of their own; the great counterfeiters. Scribner. $4.50.
As spellbinding as a good mystery, these are case histories from the author's long study of various counterfeiting methods and the criminals who discovered "the way to make money is to make money." 332.9

YP Bottineau, Yves. Portugal. Studio-Crowell. $8.50.
RH Prefaced by a brief account of Portugal's history and art, this unusual guide, in text and 168 stunning photogravures, provides an overall picture of a fascinating country that "has one foot still in the Middle Ages, the other already in America." Map. Well worth its price. 914.69
YP *In Ireland in colour, W.R. Rodgers (Studio-Crowell. $3.95. 914.15),
RH 40 photographs with delightful, informative captions and text by a

contemporary Irish poet convey the charm of past and present Ireland. Small quarto. Map.

YP RH Country of the sun: Southern California, an informal history and guide, by Scott O'Dell. (Crowell. $3.95. 917.94) is an interesting mixture of fact, legend and folklore, arranged by counties, listing places to go, dates of events and books to read. Endpaper map. Glossary, pronunciation guide, index.

Brown, H.S. & others. The next hundred years; man's natural and technological resources. Viking. $3.95.
A provocative summary of conferences between scientists from the California Institute of Technology and executives of several major corporations on industrial and world population trends in relation to future human welfare. Diagrams. Notes, bibliography, index. 333.7

Burtt, E.A. Man seeks the divine; a study in the history and comparison of religions. Harper. $6.50.
Discursive, readable survey, sympathetically presenting "the distinctive genius of each of the great religions." Notes, bibliography, index. 290

*Caine, N.R. Your family without you. Crown. $3.95.
Why and how to make a will and the ins and outs of life insurance, trusts, gifts, federal and state taxes are clearly set forth by an expert tax consultant who urges integrated planning for the protection of heirs. Glossary, appendix. 347.6

Cecil, Lord David. The fine art of reading, and other literary studies. Bobbs-Merrill. $5.
The distinguished Oxford professor has assembled 11 of his "diverse pieces" which clearly and brilliantly illuminate principles of literary appreciation and their application to such writers as Shakespeare, Jane Austen, Joseph Conrad and Walter Pater. 820.4

Chapin, John, ed. A treasury of Catholic reading. Farrar. $7.50.
Contributing to better understanding of the Catholic way of life, excerpts from old and new sources arranged in 13 sections chronologically by content emphasize historical development, personalities and events. Brief introductory comments by the editor. 808.8

YP R Chipperfield, Faith. In quest of love; the life and death of Margaret Fuller. Coward-McCann. $5.
Fresh, somewhat flowery but understanding interpretation of the brilliant and charming 19th century feminist, explaining her inner conflict between "a man's ambition and a woman's heart." Portrait frontispiece. Bibliographical notes, index. B or 92

YP R *Coles, S.B. Preacher with a plow. Houghton. $3.50.
An educated American Negro of slave parentage modestly relates his challenging experiences as an agricultural missionary in West Africa who realized "that along with the word of God the African needs material things and to be taught to use them." Photographs. B or 92

Y Cox, Sidney. A swinger of birches; a portrait of Robert Frost. New York Univ. $3.75.

The essence of the great poet's thinking is contained in his provocative talk with the late Dartmouth teacher, a friend of 40 years. B or 92

PR *Curley, J.M. I'd do it again; a record of all my uproarious years.
H Prentice-Hall. $4.95.
Shifting from the first to the third person, anecdotal, uninhibited reminiscences by Boston's four-time mayor provide a colorful picture of the era of the potitical boss who fought for the welfare of the poor. Photographs. Chronology, index. B or 92

Deutscher, Isaac. Russia in transition, and other essays. Coward-McCann. $4.50.
Fourteen penetrating essays by the noted authority, written between 1948 and 1957, deal informingly with the post-Stalin era and recent developments in Soviet society. Reprinted from magazines. 947.085

Doss, Carl, & Doss, Mrs. H.G. If you adopt a child. Holt. $4.95.
In a wise and factual volume, Reverend and Mrs. Doss, parents of 12 adopted children, explain the adoption situation today, how to go about it, and normal and special problems in raising a family. Directories of adoption agencies in the U.S. and Canada and of agencies engaged in Overseas Relief Projects, reading list. 362.7

Y Esquire. Fashion guide for all occasions; ed. by F.A. Birmingham. Harper. $3.50.
Packs a deal of information, in brisk, modern style, about the selection of suitable clothes and their care, with a chapter on "Grooming the Groom." Drawings. Two quizzes, list of fashion words and meanings. Index. 687

Goudeket, Maurice. Close to Colette; an intimate portrait of a woman of genius. Farrar. $4.
Recalling significant incidents and moments during "thirty years of unclouded happiness," the husband of the late French novelist subtly and gracefully evokes the personality, tastes and feeling for work of a village girl who became a literary artist. B or 92

YP *Hall, Leonard. Country year; a journal of the seasons at Possum Trot
RH Farm. Harper. $3.50.
A professional farmer's month-by-month record of everyday living on a Missouri farm, thoughtful often whimsical, realistic and evidencing informed awareness of all aspects of the natural world and our dependence on it. Illustrations. 630.1

Hartley, Mrs. R.E. & Goldenson, R.M. The complete book of children's play. Crowell. $5.
For the first years through the teens, for the bedridden, the handicapped and the convalescent, creative suggestions are offered to foster healthy personality development through play. Helpful information in appendix, index. 136.7

*Hawkins, Stuart. New York, New York. W. Funk. $4.95.
Easy guidebook that notes historic facts as it tells where to stay and eat, what to do and see and what are the costs. Street maps, photographs. Hotel and restaurant guides, index. 917.471

Hendrickson, E.A. Mosaics: hobby and art. Hill and Wang. $3.50.
Well-arranged manual giving step-by-step instructions for completing 12 projects, practical information on materials, equipment and methods and 12 patterns for a popular new hobby and art form. Illustrated. Sources of supply. 738

YP *Hession, Brian. Determined to live. Doubleday. $3.50.
R In a moving testament of courage and faith, a former English vicar, now a producer of religious films, tells of his recovery from a cancer operation in Los Angeles and his hope of establishing Cancer Anonymous groups in England and America to help other victims. B or 92

*Koller, L.R. Complete book of camping and the outdoors. Random. $2.95.
All about camping for the entire family — planning the trip, what to take along, cooking and a work program, safety and first aid, using map and compass, cameras and binoculars. List by states of camp sites across the nation. Alluring illustrations throughout. 796.54

YP *Loth, D.G. A long way forward; the biography of Congresswoman Frances
RH P. Bolton. Longmans. $5.
Interestingly traces the career of Mrs. Bolton of conventional, wealthy Cleveland parents, who, overcoming family objections, concerned herself with world issues and philanthropic causes and for 16 years has been an influential successor to her husband in Congress. Portrait frontispiece. Index. B or 92

McNeil, D.R. The fight for fluoridation. Oxford Univ. $5.
Lively history of fluoridation that brings up to date conflicting claims in "one of the most bitterly fought public health quarrels in the history of the American people." Notes, sources, index. 617.6

YP *Maisel, A.Q. They all chose America. Nelson. $3.75.
RH The special contributions to our country of immigrant groups from the Dutch to postwar DPs are impressively detailed in chapters that appeared in condensed form in Reader's Digest. 325.73
300,000 new Americans; the epic of a modern immigrant-aid service, by L.C. White (Harper. $4. 325.73) relates with illustrative cases how the United Service for New Americans initiated and developed techniques for integrating Jewish refugees since 1933 into American life. Notes and references, appendixes, index.

Michener, J.A. & Day, A.G. Rascals in paradise. Random. $4.75.
Ranging in time from 1595 to 1953, authentic tales of ten "strong-natured" adventurers who sought escape in the South Pacific frankly detail native customs and brutal escapades while depicting the color and allure of the Islands. Endpaper map. Bibliography, index. 990

YP *Pomeroy, E.S. In search of the golden West. Knopf. $5.
RH A vivid account of "the tourist in western America" (subtitle) from 1870 to the present, based on journals and impressions of famous visitors and the casual traveler. Photographs. Index. 917.8

Pope, Liston. The kingdom beyond caste. Friendship. $3.
The dean of the Yale University Divinity School presents a lucid, dispassionate discussion of the relation of the Christian church to

the crucial subject of race and to the concept of democracy. Selected reading list. 323.1

YP *Reilly, H.J. Easy does it; a program for better health and longer
RH life. Nelson. $3.95.
Based on the well-known physiotherapist's "Health Service," constructive suggestions on keeping healthy and physically fit emphasize the importance of controlled exercise, especially after age 30. Illustrative action photographs. Calories chart. 613.71

YP Reynolds, Q.J. They fought for the sky; the dramatic story of the
R first war in the air. Rinehart. $3.95.
Quoting from diaries and letters, vivid sketches portray the intrepid "knights of the air" during World War I who ushered in a new weapon of power. Photographs. Bibliography, index. 940.4

PR *Robertson, R.B. Of sheep and men. Knopf. $5.
H With his photographer-wife, the author of Of whales and men (1954) spent a year in Scotland at a shepherd's cottage and these are engaging, witty observations on sheep raising and the "people who take part in, or collect on the outskirts of, man's oldest industry." Photographs. 636.3

YP Schellenberg, Walter. The labyrinth; tr. by Louis Hagen. Harper.
R $4.95.
Memoirs by the former head of the German Foreign Intelligence Service, completed before his death in 1952, reveal the techniques of espionage and give a valuable, inside view of the Nazi dictatorship and its leaders at work. Photographs. Index. 940.54

YP *Stock, P.S. Eight pence a mile. Humphries. $2.75.
RH This account of an American girl's solo European tour of 94 days for approximately $1,000 is filled with useful information and delightful comments on the people and places that made her unusual trip a rewarding adventure. 914

YP *Stowe, Leland. Crusoe of Lonesome Lake. Random. $3.50.
RH How Ralph A. Edwards, "a practical man and a visionary," built a life for himself and his family in the wilds of British Columbia 35 miles from civilization is informally related by the well-known journalist. Maps. Condensed version appeared in Reader's Digest. 917.11

Tracy, Mrs. M.C. The picnic book; 100 outdoor meals. Scribner. $3.50.
Zestful suggestions for modern picknicking on terrace, patio, car or boat, with unusual recipes for foods to take with you or to cook outdoors for children, parties or a twosome. Drawings. Index. 641.5

YP Watts, Mrs. M.T. Reading the landscape; an adventure in ecology.
RH Macmillan. $4.75.
Delightful interpretation of "living things in their total environment" by a naturalist at the Morton Arboretum, Illinois. Drawings. References, index. 574.5

YP *White, W.C. & White, Mrs. Ruth. Tin can on a shingle. Dutton. $3.50.
RH The late journalist's widow completed his unbiased, authentic story

of the "Monitor" and the "Merrimac", graphically describing the race to build both ships, the crews in action and the battle between the ironclads that revolutionized naval warfare. Maps, photographs. Bibliography, index. 973.752

Widmer, Jack. A practical guide for horse owners. Scribner. $4.50.
A recognized authority gives the amateur up-to-date, scientific information on the choice of an animal, breeds and types, horse breeding and training. A square book with photographs and drawings. Index. 636.108

Fiction

Abercrombie, P.B., pseud. Victor and the vanquished. Vanguard. $3.50.
With the aid of two wealthy patronesses, handsome, unscrupulous Victor opens an antique shop in London, enlists the services of a Hungarian sculptor and becomes involved in near-scandal before returning to gentle Sydney in a sophisticated novel which subtly and wittily explores the interplay of personality.

Boyd, Martin. Outbreak of love. Reynal. $3.75.
Australia, 1913, is the setting for an absorbing story centered in lovely Diana von Flugel, married to a musician and mother of three, who overlooks her husband's indiscretions but almost leaves him for a childhood friend returned to Melbourne after years in Europe.

YP *Buck, Mrs. P.S. Letter from Peking. Day. $3.75.
R Poignant, first-person narrative of an American woman's marriage to a half-Chinese, their happy life together in Peking until the Communist regime finds him remaining at the head of his university while she returns to Vermont and sees her young son suitably wed.

PR Colum, Padraic. The flying swans. Crown. $5.
The tragic figure of Robert O'Rehill, of an old County Dublin family, who marries a herd's daughter and deserts her dominates this plum cake of a novel as it ramblingly and poetically delineates the strivings of the older son in 19th century Ireland, which comes startlingly alive in minor portraits, the speech of the day and descriptions of the countryside.

YP *Fuller, Iola. The gilded torch. Putnam. $4.
RH Its scene shifting from France in the days of Louis XIV to La Salle's exploration of the Mississippi, this richly detailed chronicle centers in the adventures of twin sons of a French nobleman who gave up the splendor of court life to join the expedition to New France.

YP *Housepian, Mrs. Marjorie. A houseful of love. Random. $3.50.
R Warm, humorous portrayal of a ten-year-old girl's colorful Armenian relatives, including 97-year-old Marta-mama, an uncle who ran a restaurant and another who went West, was a great success and married an American.

Johnson, D.M. The hanging tree. Ballantine. $3.50.
Nine romantic, realistic tales of the frontier, authentically portraying whites and Indians in the American West.

Lee, C.Y. (Li, Chin-yang). The flower drum song. Farrar. $3.50.
Affectionate, delicious, sophisticated portrait of stubborn, wealthy Old Master Wang in San Francisco's Chinatown, who refuses to accept the new ways until his older son determines to marry a strange and lovely young girl.

Lynde, H.H. The adversary. Random. $3.95.
The reactions of Norma Collin's sophisticated guests at her California ranch house and of the bewildered servants and villagers to the rumor that it is Judgment Day are skilfully delineated in a brilliant, psychological novel.

YP Marquand, J.P. Life at Happy Knoll. Little. $3.75.
RH In letter form, limns with devastating accuracy well-known facets of the American Country Club. Appeared separately in Sports Illustrated

Pym, Barbara. Less than angels. Vanguard. $3.50.
Diverting, romantic comedy concerned with a group of anthropologists in London seeking grants for their field work, wittily poking fun at the behavior patterns of the scientists and an odd assortment of suburbanites.

YP *Sutcliff, Rosemary. Lady in waiting. Coward-McCann. $3.50.
RH Sensitively written novel of Bess Throckmorton, Queen Elizabeth's Maid of Honour, as the wife of restless, ambitious Sir Walter Raleigh whose career dominated their turbulent but happy marriage.

YP *Thurber, James. The wonderful O. Simon & Schuster. $3.50.
RH What happens when a wicked sea captain who has reason to hate the letter O invades a treasure island and orders the gentle natives to abolish the letter makes a delightful fairytale with a moral for all.

Treece, Henry. The golden strangers. Random. $3.75.
With great artistry this striking, imaginative story of magic, brutality and revenge evokes Britain of 4,000 years ago when Garroch, warrior chief of the small, dark Picts attempts to rid the land of the first invaders, the Celts, who set up their sun god to be worshiped in place of the earth goddess.

PR Williams, Jay. The witches. Random. $3.95.
Authentic, stirring period romance told by a dashing, fearless French Huguenot who served both England and Scotland as secret agent and discovered that the conspiracy against James VI was fostered by a ruthless band of sorcerers.

Wylie, I.A.R. The undefeated. Random. $3.75.
In 1953 a German officer, hated and feared during the Occupation, returns to a Provencal village and this moving, dramatic novel reveals in flashbacks the motives of both traitors and loyalists and the courage of one man who later leads the people to resist postwar disruption.

Do Not Overlook:

Audubon, J.J. Bird biographies; ed. by Alice Ford. Macmillan. $10. 598.2
Bardens, Dennis. Portrait of a statesman. Philosophical Lib. $6. B or 92
Brostrom, Ethel. How to plan your bathroom and powder room. Greenberg. $1.95. 643.52
_____. How to plan your porch and patio. Greenberg. $1.95. 728.991
Casals, Pablo. Conversations with Casals, by J.Ma. Corredor. Dutton. $5. B or 92
Englebert, Omer. Adventurer saints. Kenedy. $4. B or 92
Flornoy, Bertrand. The world of the Inca. Vanguard. $4.50. 985.01
Goodman, Edward. Make believe; the art of acting. Scribner. $4.50. 792.9
Halsband, Robert. The life of Lady Mary Wortley Montagu. Oxford Univ. $7. B or 92
Joyce, James. Letters; ed. by Stuart Gilbert. Viking. $7.50. B or 92
Karolyi, Mihaly, grof. Memoirs; faith without illusion. Dutton. $6.50. B or 92
Koenigswald, G.H.R., von. Meeting prehistoric man. Harper. $3.50. 573.7
Laurence, Robert, pseud. Not with bombs, but with an idea. Greenwich Bks. $2. 301.15
Lawton, George. Straight to the heart; a personal account of thoughts and feelings while undergoing heart surgery. International Univ. $5. 617.41
Lewis, Gordon. The book of Florida fishing. Crown. $2.50; $1.50 paper 799.1
Liddell Hart, B.H., ed. The Red Army; the Red Army, 1918 to 1945; the Soviet Army, 1946 to the present. Harcourt. $6. 940.5
Macintyre, D.G.F.W. U-boat killer. Norton. $3.75. 940.545
Marshall, Mrs. L.G. Other knowledge, poems new and selected. Noonday. $3. 811.5
Millikan, M.F. & Rostow, W.W. A proposal; key to an effective foreign policy. Harper. $2.75. 338.91
Mitgang, Herbert, ed. Lincoln as they saw him. Rinehart. $6. B or 92
Moran, E.F. & Reid, Louis. Tugboat; the Moran story. Scribner. $5.95. 387.232
Musciano, W.A. Building and operating model cars. Funk. $3.50. 629.2
Myers, James, & Laidler, H.W. What do you know about labor? Day. $4.75. 331
Origo, I.C. marchesa. The merchant of Prato, Francesco di Marco Datini, 1335-1410. Knopf. $7.50. B or 92
Pearson, Hesketh. Beerbohm Tree; his life and laughter. Harper. $3.75. B or 92
Pies, Otto. The victory of Father Karl. Farrar. $3.75. B or 92
Pratt, Fletcher. The battles that changed history. Doubleday. $4.95. 904
Reichers, Louis. The flying years. Holt. $4.50. B or 92
Roosevelt, F.D. The Roosevelt reader. Rinehart. $3.50. B or 92
Sampson, Anthony. Drum; the newspaper that won the heart of Africa. Houghton. $3.50. 052
The Times, London. Literary supplement. American writing today. New York Univ. $4.50. 801.904
Wickenden, James. A claim in the hills. Rinehart. $3.95. 918.81
Woodbury, D.O. Let Erma do it; the full story of automation. Harcourt. $5. 338

THERE'S MAGIC IN THE AIR

Beaton-Jones, Cynon. So Hi. Vanguard 1956. $3.
A kite string made of the tails of the Emperor's favorite horses weaves a magic spell for a little Chinese boy. (4-7)

Benary-Isbert, Margot. The wicked enchantment. Harcourt 1955. $2.50.
An ancient legend comes to life to upset the peace of a German cathedral town. (5-8)

Bennett, Anna Elizabeth. Little witch. Lippincott 1953. $2.50.
Minikin longs to break away from her heritage and become a normal little girl. (4-6)

Bland, Edith Nesbit. The enchanted castle. Coward-McCann 1933. $3.
The wishing ring is the key to a world of fantasy. (4-6)

Boston, Lucy Maria. The children of Green Knowe. Harcourt 1955. $2.75.
A mixture of fantasy and realism bridging the gap between the past and the present for the young hero. (4-7)

Chrisman, Arthur Bowie. Shen of the sea. Dutton 1925. $2.25.
Chinese flavor lends charm to a series of tales with a folklore quality. (5-8)

De La Mare, Walter John. Down-adown-derry. Holt 1922. $2.
Fairy poems about witches, elves and the like, written with a charm that matches the subject. (5-8)

Du Bois, William Pene. The giant. Viking 1954. $2.75.
Life is difficult for a boy seven stories high who cannot even find a city which will accept him and his size. (5-8)

MacDonald, George. The princess and the goblin. Macmillan 1951. $2.50.
The wicked goblins of the mountains meet defeat at the hands of the princess and Curdie. (4-6)

Ruskin, John. The king of the Golden River. Macmillan 1952. $1.25.
An old tale of magic and the black brothers. (4-6)

Wickenden, Dan. The amazing vacation. Harcourt 1956. $2.95.
Ricky and Joanna find a new world on the other side of the magic window in their uncle's house. (4-7)

Compiled by Muriel Winder, Children's Librarian of the
Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library, Watertown
For the Children's and Young People's Section of NYLA
Mabel B. Bell, Chairman, Book Committee

Free and Inexpensive
MATERIAL

Listed by Mary S. Lindsey, Reference Section

International Relations

At work for Europe: an account of the activities of the Organization for European Economic Co-operation. 3d ed. Organization for European Economic Co-operation Mission. 2002 P St., N.W. Washington 6, D.C. 1956. 107p.

Axling, William. This is Japan: the land and its people; education; industrialization; postwar trends and gains; the Christian saga; Japan's role in an awakened Asia. Friendship Press. 257 Fourth Ave., New York 10. 1957. 24p. 50¢.

Baldwin, H.W. Middle East in turmoil. (Headline series no. 123) Foreign Policy Association, Inc. 345 East 46th St., New York 17. May-June 1957. 62p. 35¢.

Disarmament - The United Nation's effort; a United Nations Review reprint. (Sales no. 1956. 1.6) United Nations Department of Public Information. New York. 1956. 55p. 15¢.

Frommer, Arthur. Europe on 5 dollars a day; a guide to inexpensive travel. Greenberg, Publisher. 201 East 57th St., New York 22. 1957. 124p. $1.95.

Heilbroner, R.L. This growing world; economic development and the World Bank. (Pamphlet no. 237) Public Affairs Pamphlets. 22 East 38th St., New York 16. 1956. 28p. 25¢.

Hoffman, M.L. Problems of East-West trade. (International conciliation no. 511) Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Order from Columbia University Press, 2960 Broadway, New York 27. Jan. 1957. p.259-308. 25¢.

Lockwood, A.N. Libya - building a desert economy. (International conciliation no. 512) Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Order from Columbia University Press. 2960 Broadway, New York 27. March 1957. p.313-378. 25¢.

Raymond, Jack. New era in eastern Europe? (Headline series no.122) Foreign Policy Association, Inc. 345 E. 46th St., New York 17. March 20, 1957. 62p. 35¢.

Seeds of progress; stories of technical assistance. (Sales no. 1955. 1.28) United Nations Department of Public Information. New York. 1955. 48p. 30¢.

Soviet crimes and Khrushchev's confessions; a factual report with a chronology of 72 citations in the 38 year criminal record. Freedom House. 20 W. 40th St., New York 18. 1956. 35p. 20¢.

SUMMER HAMMOCK READING

Suggested by

Grace A. Moore, Readers' Adviser, Albany Public Library

Abaunza, Virginia. Sundays from two to six.
Honest and appealing story of how divorce affects a young girl. Fic

Anderson, Marian. My Lord, what a morning.
Inspiring biography of a great singer. B

Baldrige, Letitia. Roman candle.
Experiences of secretary to Clare Booth Luce in Italy. 914.5

Bridge, Ann, pseud. The lighthearted quest.
Good suspense in this story which is laid partly in England, but mostly in Algeria. Fic

Chiang, Yee. The Silent Traveller in Paris.
Beautiful colored pictures and line drawings. 914.43

Cost, March, pseud. Her Grace presents...
Sophisticated, subtly written romance. Fic

Denham, Elizabeth. I looked right.
Adventures of member of underground in France. 940.5

DuMaurier, Daphne. The scapegoat.
One of her most exciting novels. Fic

Ginzberg, Louis. Legends of the Bible.
Fascinating stories, myths, legends which bring alive the Bible. 296

Harriman, M.C. Blessed are the debonair.
Witty, sophisticated account, by Frank Case's daughter, of the famous circle of writers associated with the Algonquin Hotel. B

Hayes, Marjorie. Bon voyage.
Lighthearted story of a family's adventures in Europe. Fic

Head, Ann. Fair with rain.
An amusing tale of normal, hectic family life. Fic

Kane, H.T. Miracle in the mountains.
The fabulous life of the Martha Berry of the Southern mountain folk. B

Merrill, M.B. Bears in my kitchen.
Honeymooning in the forests with a ranger husband was exciting. 917.8

O'Callahan, J.T. I was chaplain on the Franklin.
Story of the heroic chaplain aboard the great ship which "would not die." 940.5

Patterson, S.W. Dear Mad'm.
Engaging narrative of an intrepid adventurer of 80 who chose to live near her mining claim alone in the forests. 828

Powell, R.P. The Philadelphian.
Important novel of manners, good characterization and entertaining. Fic

Rittenhouse, Mignon. The amazing Nellie Bly.
Story of the famed reporter who traveled around the world in less than 80 days. B

Saint, D.T., pseud. The village school.
A delightful version of our famous Good morning, Miss Dove. 379

Scherman, Katharine. Spring on an Arctic island.
The only woman on the expedition which was seeking scientific data, the author presents a fascinating account of their adventures. 919.8

Sloane, Eric. American yesterdays.
Nostalgic account with pictures of life in America of long ago and not so long ago. 917.3

Spencer, Elizabeth. The voice at the back door.
A runner-up for the "Liberty and Justice" award, this poignant story of the South will be long remembered. Fic

Tomkinson, Constance. Les girls.
First published in the Atlantic Monthly, this engaging story by a dancer tells of her adventures as she tours Europe and the East. 793.3

Van Paassen, Pierre. A pilgrim's vow.
Buried for days in a disaster of World War II, the author vowed, if he were saved, to travel to Palestine and follow the footsteps of Our Lord. Brilliant writing, graphic descriptions. 915.69

West, Jessamyn. To see the dream.
Informal, chatty diary of this writer, who comments chiefly on the long struggle when she helped prepare her Friendly persuasion for the movies. B

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Copies of this list are available on request to:
Book Information Section, Library Extension Division,
New York State Library, Albany 1, New York.

A SELECTED LIST OF *Recent Accessions*

Prepared by

Evelyn E. Nelson, Reference and Ethel Lansing, Order Sections

These titles of general interest, which the smaller library may not have purchased, may be borrowed from the New York State Library. Please use call numbers as indicated when requesting books.

ATOMS

Blackett, P.M.S. Atomic weapons and East-West relations. Cambridge [Eng.] University Press, 1956. 107p. 909.82 B628

BIOGRAPHY

Croxall, T.H. Kierkegaard commentary. New York, Harper [1956] 263p. 198.9 K47Ac

Herwitt, E.R. Days from seventy-five to ninety. New York, Duell, Sloan, and Pearce [1957] 128p. 629.2 Zh6hd

Lancaster, Clay. Back streets and pine trees; the work of John McMurtry, nineteenth century architect-builder of Kentucky. Lexington [Ky.] Bur Press, 1956. 122p. (Kentucky monographs, no. 4) 720.81 M168ℓ

McVaugh, Rogers. Edward Palmer, plant explorer of the American West. Norman, University of Oklahoma Press [1956] 430p. 580.92 P173m

INDUSTRY IN EUROPE AND SPANISH AMERICA

Northeastern Council for Latin American and Inter-American Studies. Latin America: development programming and United States investments [by] Clement G. Motten [and others] Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania Press [1956] 70p. (Its Inter-American studies, occasional papers, 1) 338.98 N874

Organization for European Economic Cooperation. Europe's growing needs of energy, how can they be met? A report prepared by a group of experts. Paris [1956] 120p. 338 O68e

SPAIN, AFRICA AND SOUTH AMERICA

Diolé, Philippe. Sahara adventure (Le plus beau dessert du monde). New York, J. Messner [1956] 185p. 916.61 D591

Flornoy, Bertrand. The world of the Inca. New York, Vanguard Press [c1956] 212p. 985 F639

Huxley, Francis. Affable savages; an anthropologist among the Urubu Indians of Brazil. New York, Viking Press, 1957. 285p. 980.U82h

Wallbank, T.W. Contemporary Africa, continent in transition. Princeton, N.J., Van Nostrand [1956] 192p. (An Anvil original, no. 15) 960 W195

Wright, Richard. Pagan Spain. New York, Harper [1957] 241p. 914.6 W952

THE THEATER

Courtney, M.T. Edward Martyn and the Irish theatre. New York, Vantage Press [1956] 188p. 822.91 M388Ac

Goodman, Edward. Make believe, the art of acting. New York, Scribner [1956] 242p. 792 G653

VOLCANOES

Jaggar, T.A. My experiments with volcanoes. Honolulu, Hawaiian Volcano Research Association, 1956. 198p. 550.92 J24j

Price, Williard. Volcano adventure. New York, J. Day Co. [1956] 187p. 551.21 P946

MISCELLANEOUS

Beethoven, Ludwig van. New Beethoven letters. Norman, University of Oklahoma Press [1957] 577p. 780.92 B41b2n

Burger, I.V. Bringing children and books together... New York, Library Club of America [1956] 133p. 028.5 B954

Dickinson, A.E.F. Bach's fugal works, with an account of fugue before and after Bach. New York, Pitman [1956] 280p. 781.4 B118d

Grimes, J.M. The next step in civilization, implementing unslanted adult education and personally planned living as a new technique for happiness. New York, Vantage Press [1956] 310p. 170 G862

Jones, D.J. Introduction to microfossils. New York, Harper [1956] 406p. 560 J76

Latil, Pierre de. Thinking by machine; a study of cybernetics. London, Sidgwick and Jackson [1956] 353p. 501 L356

Munitz, M.K. Space, time and creation; philosophical aspects of scientific cosmology. Glencoe, Ill., Free Press [1957] 182p. 113 M966

Pierpont Morgan Library, New York. Treasures from the Pierpont Morgan Library; fiftieth anniversary exhibition, 1957. [New York, 1957] 48p. 016.09 qP621t

Official Publications

OF NEW YORK STATE

Prepared by Peter Paulson, Gift and Exchange Section

*Available free to libraries within New York State, and on exchange to libraries outside of New York State, from New York State Library, Gift and Exchange Section, Albany 1, New York. Other publications may be obtained from issuing office.

*AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION, Geneva. Response of cabbage to irrigation, fertility level, and spacing, by M. T. Vittum and N. H. Peck. (1957) 34p. (Bulletin no. 777, November 1956)

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION, Ithaca. Feeding value of...mixed hays, grass silage, and corn silage for steer calves and beef cows, (by) J. I. Miller, W. F. Brannon, J. J. Drain, and J. R. Ferguson. (1957) 32p. (Bulletin 923, March 1957)

*AGRICULTURE, TEMPORARY COMMISSION ON. Report...1956-57. (1957) 26p. (Legis Doc 1957 no. 19)

*COMMERCE, DEPT. OF.. Annual report, 1956. (1957) 61p. (Legis Doc 1957 no. 100)

*___ Your ideas make cents-and dollars too; a handbook of suggestions for a business-of-your own. (1957) 16p.

*CORPORATION LAWS, JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE TO STUDY REVISION OF. Interim report to 1957 session of New York State Legislature. (1957) 138p. (Legis Doc 1957 no. 17)

*EDUCATION DEPT. Annual report, 50th of the Education Department for the school year ending June 30, 1953, volume 2, statistics. 1956. 442p.

*___ Architecture: law, rules and information, 1956. (1957) 80p. (Handbook 35, professional education)

*___ Winners of Regents college scholarships, 1957. (1957) 124p.

*___ Bureau of Elementary Curriculum Development. The Elementary school library. 1957. 24p.

*FLUSHING REMONSTRANCE, JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE. Interim report... March 25, 1957. (1957) 15p.

*LEGISLATURE, Senate. Standing committees of the Senate with individual assignments of Senators, as of March 7, 1957. 1957. 12p. (Legis Doc 1957 no. 13)

*NEW YORK STATE MUSEUM AND SCIENCE SERVICE. The Crayfishes of New York State (decapoda, astacidae) by Denton W. Crocker, Temporary Museum Expert. (1957) 97p. (Bulletin number 355; May 1957)

*___ Precambrian geology and mineral resources of the Brier Hill quadrangle, New York, by Richard V. Dietrich; with maps. 1957. 121p. (Bulletin no. 354; March 1957)

*STATE, DEPT OF. Annual report...1956. (1957) 95p. (Legis Doc 1957 no. 103)

STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, Cornell University, Ithaca. Department of Agricultural Economics. The Aqua-pak; a new package for selling cut flowers, by Hugh Burrell. (1957) 18p. (A.E. 1060, April 1957)

___ ___ Computed returns for direct labor in milk production, New York pool, September 1955-August 1956, (by) E. G. Misner. (1957) 12p. (A.E. 1062, April 1957)

___ ___ The Marketing of a breed milk--golden guernsey (by) E. G. Misner. (1957) 4p. Mimeo. (A.E. 1063, April 1957)

STATE COLLEGE OF FORESTRY, Syracuse. Absorption and penetration of oil-soluble wood preservatives applied by dip treatment, (by) Frederick L. Brown, Raymond A. Moore, Robert A. Zabel. (1957) 38p. (Technical publication 79)

___ Forest economy of the Adirondack region (by) Charles C. Larson. 1956. 48p. (Bulletin no. 39)

___ Preparing professional men for industry, by Hardy L. Shirley, (1957) 6p. (Reprinted from November, 1956 Wood Working Digest)

___ Timber growth rates for natural forest stands in New York State (by) Miles J. Ferree (and) Robert K. Hagar. (1957) 56p. (Technical publication 78)

___ Woodusing industries of New York excluding sawmills and pulp and paper mills (by) Russell C. Deckert (and) Raymond J. Hoyle. 1957. 124p. (Technical publication 27, revised)

*STATE LABOR RELATIONS BOARD. Decisions and orders...January 1, 1956-December 31, 1956. (1957) 641p. (Vol 19)

*VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS. Department of New York. Proceedings of the 37th annual encampment of...and the 32nd annual encampment of the ladies auxiliary...held at Elmira, New York, June 28-30, 1956. (1957) 200p. (Legis Doc 1957 no. 92)

For Your Information

GENERAL NEWS

Edited by Ida M. Cohen, Henry G. Shearouse, Jr., Marion H. Vedder

Staff Notes: Dr. Charles Francis Gosnell, State Librarian, was appointed to the position of Grand Historian of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York to succeed Richardson Wright of West Chatham, Mass., former editor of "House and Garden" magazine, who had held that post for the past 15 years. This is one of the highest honors that the Grand Lodge of the State of New York can confer. — Dr. Gosnell, Dr. Robert H. Deily, Jean L. Connor, Crawford E.L. Donohugh, Florence E. Harshe, Henry G. Shearouse, Jr., Jack B. Spear and Edgar Tompkins were State Library representatives at the ALA conference in Kansas City. — Miss Connor attended the Rutgers University workshop on state-wide planning during the week of June 17. — Mr. Shearouse attended the 22nd annual conference of the Chicago University Graduate Library School June 19-21, its theme, "New Directions in Public Library Development." — Dr. Deily will be visiting full professor at New York State University College for Teachers, Albany, this summer. He will give courses in "Public Library Administration" and "Advanced Reference." — Mason Tolman recently addressed a conference of librarians of units of the State University on progress in New York State Library's plan for integrating college and university libraries in New York State. — Mr. Tolman will instruct at Russell Sage College this summer, his subject, "Europe since 1914." — Heath Babcock and Joyce Macdonald of the Medical Library prepared an exhibit on the history of public health for a meeting of the New York State Association of Public Health Officers at the State Armory, Albany, June 24-27. — Arpine Hadidian has been transferred from Traveling Libraries to Field Services, Library Extension Division, to aid in the State Aid and certification programs and with audio-visual materials. — We note with sorrow the death of Mrs. Janet Collins, a devoted staff member of Traveling Libraries, on June 11, 1957.

State Library Exhibit: "New York State in 1777" is the subject of the summer exhibit in the rotunda of the State Library. Commemorated will be the adoption of the first New York State constitution in 1777, Burgoyne's campaign and the Battle of Saratoga. On display will be papers, documents, books, prints, maps and military miniatures, loaned by John Fox of Albany.

New Ruling for Association Libraries: Any New York State library that has filed an annual report with the Library Extension Division before June 30, 1957 will not be required to file a report under the Social Welfare law. The statement of this unit to the Charities Registration Bureau certifying to the fact that the library in question has filed its report with the Division will obviate the need of further registration with the Social Welfare Department.

Recent Visitors: H.M. Robinson, Library Organizer in Pretoria, Transvaal, South Africa, with his wife spent several days in New York State on a

Carnegie Travel Grant. Mr. Robinson was interested primarily in public and rural library services while Mrs. Robinson was concerned with hospital libraries, bibliotherapy and work with the handicapped and spastic children. — Sophia C. Boafo, Assistant Director of Education in Ghana, West Africa, was another recent visitor on a Carnegie grant. She is in charge of the education of women and girls and is interested in libraries as well as schools.

Americanization Bibliography: Angelica W. Cass has compiled a bibliography of "Teaching Materials for Americanization and Adult Elementary Education" which has been published by the Bureau of Adult Education of the State Education Department, Albany, New York. The bibliography covers three grades of students from beginning through advanced. The materials are free or inexpensive, most of them costing less than $1.00. Single copies of the bibliography are available from the Bureau on request.

An Albany Workshop: Dr. Susan S. Smith, Curriculum Consultant and Head of Library Service, East Greenbush Central Schools, will conduct a course, "Library Service to Children," July 29-August 9, 1957, 1:15 to 4:30 daily, Monday-Friday at New York State College for Teachers. Any college graduate who has had a course in children's literature is eligible to attend and may register on July 1 or July 29. There will be two semester hours credit. Tuition is $27, room and board (two meals a day) at Brubacher Hall, $40, single room, $45. For further information contact Robert S. Burgess, Chairman, Department of Librarianship, New York State College for Teachers, Albany 3, New York.

Encourages Children to Read: The Book Manufacturers' Institute has created an organization known as the Library Club of America, patterned on the Boy Scouts with its awards of merit badges. For reading four books, a child gets a membership pin; after six more, an honor pin; after 18, he becomes a life member. (Numbers of books read for awards may be varied by teachers or librarians.) Library Clubs may be organized through school or public libraries. If there is none in your area, write for further information to the Library Club of America, 28 West 44th Street, New York 36, N.Y.

Have You Read These Articles? "Dynamics of the Public Library" by Gretchen K. Schenk in New Mexico Library Bulletin for January 1957. — "Books Are Here to Stay" by Richard B. Harwell in Tennessee Librarian for February 1957. — "Librarians Working Together" by Frederick Wezeman in Iowa Library Quarterly for April 1957, part II. — "16 mm. Film Programing for Small Public Libraries" by John C. Frentz in Wisconsin Library Bulletin for March-April 1957. — "Recommendations for a Map Collection..." by Bill M. Woods in Illinois Libraries for March 1957. — "Working Together for Adult Education in the Community—the State—the Region" by Warren H. Schmidt in Texas Libraries for March 1957 (reprinted from Adult Leadership). (All of these periodicals may be borrowed through inter-library loan from the New York State Library).

Report of Microfilm Questionnaire: Charles S. Underhill, librarian of the Corning Public Library, sent questionnaires to 55 libraries in the 10,000-100,000 population groups to determine how many preserve old local newspapers on microfilm. "Any library desiring a copy of the report may obtain one gratis as long as the supply lasts," he writes.

Gift to State Library: The Fairburn Marine Educational Foundation, Inc. has presented to The New York State Library the six-volume set entitled MERCHANT SAIL by William Armstrong Fairburn. This set constitutes a great contribution to the literature of sailing ships, and will be a splendid addition to the Reference Section of The State Library.

One of its chief virtues is an excellent system of indexes which enhances its value as a reference work immeasurably. In addition, the book is delightfully written and many pleasant hours may be spent reading about the lore of sailing ships which it so graphically portrays.

Dates Ahead: October 16-19, 1957, New York Library Association Annual Conference, Albany, New York, Sheraton-Ten Eyck Hotel, Headquarters.

November 17-23, 1957, Children's Book Week, slogan: "Explore with Books."

March 16-22, 1958, National Library Week. Gilbert W. Chapman, chairman of the National Book Committee, stated: "National Library Week will be an educational and promotional program. All the forces and agencies interested in fostering lifetime reading habits will be invited to join in celebrating the importance of reading in our lives."

June 8-12, 1958, Special Libraries Association meeting in Chicago, Illinois.

June 15-18, 1958, Canadian Library Association, Quebec City, Quebec.

July 13-19, 1958, American Library Association, San Francisco, Calif., Public Auditorium.

June 21-27, 1959, American Library Association, Washington, D.C., Sheraton Park and Shoreham Hotels.

LOCAL ACTIVITIES

Edited by Jean L. Connor and I. Marie Gustafson, Library Extension

Erie. The Town of Tonawanda Libraries have been conducting a joint program with the Benjamin Franklin Junior High School. Originally, the librarians reviewed four teen-age books a week which were published in the local paper as "Really Readable." This was intended specifically to present a positive approach toward groups fostering salacious literature drives. Then, the librarians decided to work with a group of 9th graders who would review titles selected by the library expressing precisely what they felt about the books without any influence from adult readers. These opinions have proven more acceptable to the teen-age set, as "Titles for Teens."

Lewis. The library board of B. Elizabeth Strong Memorial Library, Turin, and interested members of the community are participating in a series of work projects at the library. The purpose of the program is to help the new librarian and to train additional library assistants. Mrs. Irene Baxter has succeeded Mrs. Irene Hartley as librarian.

Monroe. The Friends of the Rochester Public Library on May 27 presented their first Annual Literary Award to author Samuel Hopkins Adams. The award is designed to honor a present or former resident of the Rochester area who has made a distinguished contribution to the world of books. Mr. Adams was cited for his more than 40 books, countless short stories and magazine articles. These encompassed social and political reform,

fostered democratic principles in industry and business, aided in the passage of the Pure Food and Drug Act and popularized American history. On the occasion of the Presentation of the award, Dr. Louis C. Jones, director of the New York State Historical Association, Cooperstown, spoke on "Sam Adams and the York State Renaissance." — On September 26, 1957 the Staff Association of the Rochester Public Library will sponsor an all-day Staff Institute in the Rundel Memorial Building. The speakers will be Dr. Lowell Martin and Dr. Robert Leigh. — Rochester Public Library and University of Rochester are co-sponsoring a series of films, "Music as a Language" on WROC-TV.

Nassau. Franklin Square Public Library held dedication ceremonies for the new building on May 26. "A key to the kingdom of books" was presented by architect Frederic P. Wiedersum to Mrs. Walter Anchinal, president of trustees of the library. — The Peninsula Public Library in Lawrence was a participant in the Five Towns Community Council Fair in Cedarhurst Park on Memorial Day. The Lawrence bookmobile was parked on the fair grounds and members of the staff were on hand to welcome visitors, answer questions and distribute literature and souvenirs. Marion Humble, library director, designed a unique booklet for the occasion. — In the largest voter turnout ever seen in North Merrick, taxpayers on May 15 rejected by a vote of 1,805—546 a proposition to set up this community's first public library. — On May 3 East Meadow voters rejected a proposal to build a $526,000 community library building. It was the third defeat of a library proposal in six months. — Thomas E. Dutelle, director of East Meadow Public Library, has been elected president of the Nassau County Library Association. — Levittown Public Library has announced plans to rent two additional stores as extra spaces to be used for administrative offices and bookmobile facilities. Increased hours of opening are also planned. — Massapequa Public Library reports that total library registration has risen from 11,505 to 18,698 since the opening of the new quarters last year. — Two magicians and a color film were presented by the Floral Park Public Library as part of a program to make the library a popular vacation spot for children. — Mrs. Sidney Brownstein is the newly appointed librarian of the West Hempstead Free Library. — The Plainview Public Library is planning to extend its services to cover Old Bethpage.

New York. Manuscripts and letters, together with annotated, rare and first editions of the works of such literary figures as Coleridge, Thomas Hardy, Mark Twain, Yeats, Charlotte Bronte and Robert Louis Stevenson — all acquired during the last five years for the New York Public Library's Berg Collection of English and American Literature — went on exhibit June 6 in Room 320 of the Library's Fifth Avenue building. The exhibition, entitled "New in the Berg Collection," represents only a selection of the more interesting additions to the collection. The exhibition continues through the summer.

Orange. Highland Falls Library held an Amnesty Day during which 81 books were returned. Enough outdated, duplicated and donated books were sold to finance a book club program for the summer, which started the end of June.

Queens. Queens Borough Public Library dedicated Flushing Branch Library on June 18, 1957. The new library, as a regional branch, will serve

an area of 27½ square miles, with a population of 422,000. Provision has been made on the first floor for adult reading room, reference room, meeting and lecture room seating 100, gallery and control area. The control area overlooks a landscaped outdoor reading court in the rear of the building. The second floor accommodates the children's reading room, librarian's office and staff room. The basement, aside from the boiler and meter rooms, is set aside for book storage and work rooms. — Two staff members of Queens Borough Public Library are responsible for the slide-sound production, "The Queens Borough Public Library: How it Works for You." This combination of color slides with recorded script gives a clear picture of the Library's organization, operation and multitude of services.

St. Lawrence. The Northern New York Library Club held its spring meeting at the Canton Free Library on May 9. Mrs. Phyllis Clark, librarian, was hostess to the group attending from Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence Counties. Helen Wood, Ogdensburg, presided at the meeting. The newly elected officers of the organization are: President, Fannie Bloomfield, Parishville; Vice President, Wharton H. Miller, Canton; Secretary, Mrs. Vivian A. Smith, Copenhagen; Treasurer, Lois Mitchell, Gouverneur. — Friends of Zella Stevens will be sorry to learn that she died on April 27, 1957. For 33 years Miss Stevens had been librarian of the Hepburn Library of Edwards. — Barbara Garrett succeeds Mrs. Frederick L. Buck (retired) as librarian of the Potsdam Public Library and Reading Room.

Saratoga-Washington-Warren-Fulton. Representatives of these four counties discussed expanded library service at a meeting on June 4 at the Saratoga Springs Public Library. Harold Hacker spoke on multi-county library service from his experience in Erie and Monroe Counties. It was decided to form a four-county committee which would report to the group in a month.

Suffolk. Huntington voters have approved the purchase of a building for use by the Huntington Public Library. Books and personnel will be transferred to the new structure as soon as necessary conversions and alterations can be made. — The West Islip Library Association, which was chartered on October 26, 1956, is now open to the public on three days of the week.

Ulster. The annual meeting of the Ulster County Library Association was held in New Paltz on May 24. At the business meeting Mrs. Ruth P. Heidgerd of New Paltz was re-elected President. Mrs. Kilduff discussed new services of the Ellenville Public Library and Leon Karpel of the State Teachers College Library gave a demonstration of binding and repair of books. The evening session was an open meeting at the Huguenot Grange in New Paltz. Irving A. Verschoor spoke on Rural Library Services to a capacity audience. — The new children's room at the Ellenville Public Library was opened officially on June 13 in the central room of the Hunt Memorial Building. Open House was celebrated on June 21, when the public was invited to inspect the new children's room. This date coincides with the 64th anniversary of the issuance of the charter to the Ellenville Public Library.

Wayne. April marked the close of 14 weeks of Story Hour for over 200 children at the Lyons School District Public Library, completing its second successful season of storytelling.

Westchester. The Westchester Library Association held its 20th annual meeting on May 8 in the Scarsdale Public Library. There was a report on the hoped-for ultimate establishment of a state-subsidized library system for Westchester. Speakers included Katharine Holden, Mount Vernon Public Library, Dr. John W. Gardner, trustee of the Scarsdale Public Library. — William H. Chamberlain is the new president of the Board of the Mount Vernon Public Library. — A special item of business at the annual meeting of Mount Vernon Public Library was the conferring upon Alice L. Jewett of the honorary title, Director Emeritus, in recognition of her many years of outstanding service as head of the Library and her contributions to the library profession.

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LIBRARIANS ARE PEOPLE

Bernice E. Hodges, retired director of the Schenectady County Public Library, won $1,000 on the NBC Tic-Tac-Dough television program recently.

Era Zistel (Mrs. Posselt), librarian of the Haines Falls Free Library, is the author of a charming article, "Our Lovable Little Bandits," in the Saturday Evening Post of June 1, 1957. It tells of the adoption of a pair of baby raccoons by Mrs. Posselt and her husband.

Harold L. Dunn, Education Supervisor of Green Haven Prison, Stormville, New York, formerly with the U.S. Commission of Education, is subject of the "May We Present" feature of June 1957 Good Housekeeping. Mr. Dunn has, with the full cooperation of Warden Edward M. Fay, built up a 50-course program of study (including correspondence courses), a staff of 21 inmate teachers, a 14,000 book library and an art gallery of the men's paintings.

COMMENTS OF COMMISSIONER JAMES E. ALLEN, JR. ON PUBLIC LIBRARY PROBLEMS

(Yonkers), May 18, 1957

The Education Department is responsible for providing the leadership that will insure to the people of the State the education that they need for the maintenance and improvement of our civilization. This is not primarily a supervisory responsibility but responsibility for organizing and developing needed services. This is an ever-expanding requirement as our civilization expands.

These developing needs must be identified and presented to the people and their elected legislators so clearly as to make the needs and the consequences of failure to meet them clear and convincing to all. Simultaneously, the existing institutions must be evaluated and the findings reported to the public and its elected representatives to give them a basis of judging the efficiency with which these institutions are meeting current needs and the prospect of their meeting the new needs if they are authorized to proceed and granted the necessary funds.

Libraries are an important part of the educational system and as such should be developed in terms of their relationship to the total program of extending educational opportunity. The Department has not taken adequate advantage of the potentialities of the libraries as a part of the overall educational program. Many libraries in the State are continuing in patterns that met old needs when new patterns for new needs are required. For instance, regional service is needed for public libraries and these facilities are essential for adequately meeting the needs of the college libraries and all libraries need to be backstopped by the Department and the State Library. Much more can be done with existing facilities if they are properly related and adequately supported.

The needed changes are, therefore, not restricted to the local libraries but extend to the State Education Department and to the State Government in general. The Department must provide suitable staff to aid in planning and to help in in-service training of staff. The State should determine the level of state responsibility for education through public libraries and this includes responsibility for finding sources for the new funds that are needed.

Education will have to depend more and more on self-teaching. Public library use is too often thought of as

leisure-time activity. This places libraries low on the list of priorities for funds. Actually, libraries contribute or should contribute, importantly to the total education program of the community. When they contribute to self-teaching they are in the mainstream of high priority needs. The State should formulate a positive program of stimulating library development along these lines. Moreover, the plan should show an effort on the part of the libraries toward greater efficiency in meeting the important needs.

There should be continuing study in this field. At present the Department, through the Commissioner's Committee, is concentrating on the needs of the public library. Beyond this are problems of college and university libraries, research libraries and school libraries. Each of these has unique problems and there are many overlapping ones. The Department should concentrate on the broad elements of planning for these institutions and assisting in evaluating the adequacy of their operations.

REPORT TO OUR READERS AND THANK YOU

As, with this issue, we conclude Volume 16 of The Bookmark to resume publication in October, we pause to review our directions and to set our sights for the working year ahead.

Our aims in the past season have been to acquaint the public libraries of the State with new policies and trends in the profession; to recommend for the small library with limited funds book purchases suitable for adults, young people and children and to print subject lists; to suggest free and inexpensive pamphlet material; list recent accessions to the State Library that may be borrowed through inter-library loan and also official publications with the source for ordering; to share interesting news and ideas that may prove helpful to others.

Informal spot checks reveal that all of these sections are enjoyed by various libraries.

To all our contributors we extend thanks for stimulating articles, carefully prepared lists and for items of interest. To the publishers, we acknowledge our great indebtedness, for without their review copies, book evaluation would be impossible. To the Book Committee, Children's and Young People's Section of the New York Library Association, our deep appreciation for valuable work in this field. And to our authors, for whose hours of thought and writing there will never be statistics, our immeasurable gratitude for supplying the library staple, books, those unique ingredients of human society which heighten living and which will never be replaced.

The summer months afford a good opportunity to check the year's acquisitions, to fill in or reorder. Vacation gives free time to read titles missed in the busy months, which may be privately enjoyed and used professionally.

Please give thought to The Bookmark when leisure permits and send on any suggestions, ideas, lists or articles that may benefit the libraries of New York State.

Happy holiday to all Bookmark readers!